

PUBLIC SCHOOL PLANS

An Important Circular Now in Preparation.

"EXAMINATIONS" AT AN END.

Daily Work to be the Real Test of a Pupil's Right to Advance in any Grade—How the Grades are to be Designated in the Future.

A plan for the promotion of pupils in the Massillon public schools, adopted by the board of education on November 12th, is fully described in an important circular prepared by Superintendent Jones. The main points in the circular follow:

TEACHERS' ESTIMATES.

The teachers in the elementary grades, as often as once a week, shall make an estimate of the standing of each pupil in deportment, habits of study, reading, spelling, arithmetic, grammar, language and composition, geography, history, and, when taught, German; physiology and hygiene may be estimated with language and composition. Proficiency in writing, music and drawing may be estimated three times a year—once each term. Daily estimates are not desired, as their frequency takes too much time and detracts from the interest in regular work. The only daily record to be kept is that of attendance and punctuality. At the end of each month an average of these weekly estimates shall be made and the same shall be recorded on the "Report Cards" to be sent to parents and guardians.

The record shall be kept in the following manner: each pupil may be supposed to be Excellent, Good, Medium, Poor, or Very Poor, in each study pursued. On his "Report Card," and also in connection with his record on the Schedule Sheet, the teacher shall place opposite each study the initial letter of one of the above words. "Very Poor" will be indicated by V. P.

In the High School, similar estimates shall be made in the studies of that department.

TESTS FOR THE THIRD, FOURTH, FIFTH, SIXTH, SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADES.

There shall be no stated or previously announced examinations or tests, except at the close of the year or on the completion of a subject as explained below.

Whenever a teacher or the superintendent wishes to judge of the proficiency of a class or to determine or direct the quality of teaching, a written test may be given covering the recitation period of the subject tested.

Once or twice each year a special written or oral test shall be held. If written, it shall be held in the following manner and the results kept on file for inspection and reference:

Give no notice to the pupils before hand. Do not call the work an examination, but a written test.

The test may occupy two recitation periods, but in no case shall last longer than one hour.

There shall be no re-copying. Use the usual examination paper, and write with pen and ink.

All tests of whatever sort shall be combined in order to determine the "term standing" of each pupil in each study.

Tests similar to the above may be held in the high school, but should be confined to the recitation period.

III. PROMOTIONS.

At any time during the year, any teacher may, with the approval of the superintendent, as heretofore promote on trial to the next grade, any pupil who is well qualified and able physically as well as mentally to do the work of that grade.

No pupil shall be kept longer than two years in the same grade without special reasons passed upon by the superintendent. And when in the judgment of the teacher and superintendent a pupil who is spending his second year in the same grade, is prepared to do the work of the next grade, he shall be promoted without delay.

In the first and second grades all pupils shall be promoted on the judgment of the teacher and approval of the superintendent.

In the third, fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh grades, all pupils whose record, based on the teacher's estimate and tests given, is excellent or good in any study, shall be passed in that study without further question. Any pupil whose record is medium shall be passed without question if his record in attendance has been good and his standing in deportment and "habits of study" is marked excellent or good. In the eighth grade all pupils whose record, based on the teacher's estimate and tests given, is excellent in any study shall be passed in that study without further question. Any pupil whose record is good shall be passed without question if his standing in deportment and habits of study is marked excellent or good.

All others will be required to take a final examination at the completion of a subject or during the last week of the school year, to be prepared by the superintendent. The subjects in which they shall be examined in the eighth grade, are, arithmetic, grammar, geography, spelling and history; in the sixth and seventh grades, arithmetic, grammar, spelling and geography; in the fourth and fifth grades, arithmetic, geography, language and spelling; in the third grade, arithmetic, language and spelling. Those who pass these examinations, i. e., whose standing is excellent, good, or medium, shall be promoted; those who do not pass them, i. e., whose standing is poor, or very poor, shall be returned to the same grade. The papers shall be kept for future reference.

Persons not attending the public schools may take these final examinations and receive cards of admission to the high school. On the Saturday preceding the opening of the schools in September, the principal of the high school shall hold an examination for those who did not take the above.

All pupils completing the work of the elementary schools in a satisfactory manner shall be granted cards of admission to the first year of the high school.

But the principal of the high school may, with the approval of the superintendent, return to the elementary schools any pupil who are found to be unprepared for high school work.

In the high school, any pupil whose standing is Excellent or Good in any study, and whose deportment has a corresponding grade, shall be passed without further question on in that branch. All others will be required to take an examination at such time as may be designated by the principal after consultation with the superintendent.

If in these examinations the pupil's standing in any study is Excellent, Good or Medium, he shall be passed.

If at the close of the year any pupil in the high school shall fail to reach a standard of medium in one branch for two terms, or two branches for one term, or the equivalent thereof, such pupil shall be returned to the same grade for another year.

V. GRADES.

Hereafter, the grades in the elementary schools shall be designated as first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth seventh and eighth, instead of C, B, and A, primary, B and A secondary, and C, B and A grammar, as heretofore.

By the term "excellent" will be meant a grade of 90 or more; "good" will mean a grade of not less than 80 but less than 90; "medium" will mean a grade of not less than 70, but less than 80; "poor" will mean a grade not less than 60, but less than 70; "very poor" will mean all below 60.

TIRED OF LIFE.

No Other Reason Assigned for an Attempted Suicide.

Mrs. Mary Cas or Hettinger, who attempted suicide, Wednesday morning, by drinking carbolic acid, regained consciousness during the night, but her recovery is yet doubtful. She suffers greatly but for several hours early this morning rested easier. When questioned as to why she attempted her life Mrs. Hettinger will only answer, "I was tired of life." She claims she swallowed the entire contents of the ounce phial of acid.

Although Mrs. Hettinger has rallied somewhat it is scarcely possible that she can recover as the effects of the drug are so dangerous to the stomach. The parents cannot conceive why Mrs. Hettinger should wish to die. They have questioned her closely but with no satisfactory result. Mr. Castor stated this morning that Mary was one of his brightest children and had always been light hearted and seemed to enjoy life thoroughly.

LOST OVER \$10,000.

Cheese Makers Around Massillon in Trouble.

Last all a man representing himself as being a member of the firm of Livingston & Co., a cheese firm of Columbus, purchased the summer's output of cheese from a number of factories in Wayne and adjoining counties, and a couple of weeks ago ordered the cheese shipped to that city. A sufficient time having elapsed to receive returns from the shipment the owners of the cheese became uneasy and made an investigation and found the man and firm to be swindlers and to have decamped for unknown parts. The value of the cheese shipped to them amounts to about \$10,000. Among the unfortunate factories Kohler & Marty, south of Orrville, sustain a loss of \$80; one at Applecreek \$400; Mt. Hope, \$2,500; Dundee, \$1,400; Baltic, \$3,000; and one at Ragersville, \$1,500.

THE MOB WAS "ORDERLY."

Another Kentucky Case of Successful Lincching.

OWENSBORO, Ky., Dec. 26.—[By Associated Press]—Alfred Holt, colored, was taken from the jail at 2:30 a. m. and hanged to a tree in the court house yard by a mob which came in on horseback. The jailer was thrown off guard by two men saying they had a prisoner to be locked up. They were admitted, whereupon they compelled the jailer to unlock the cell. Holt's crime was killing Police Officer A. W. White. The mob was very orderly and rode away soon as the work was done. Holt's trial was in progress.

CHRISTMAS SHOOTING.

First Honors Come to Massillon from East Greenville.

Marksmen gathered from miles around at East Greenville on Christmas day. Not less than 300 were present. They spent the morning shooting for turkeys and the afternoon shooting for a purse of \$35. So many participated in the sport that only three turkeys were won, and two of these were brought home by Ray Markel, of Massillon. In the match for a purse of \$25 he divided first money with Wolf, of North Lawrence, and Price, of East Greenville.

What Mr. Phelps Thinks.

BURLINGTON, Vt., Dec. 26.—[By Associated Press]—The Hon. E. J. Phelps, ex minister to England, says that Secretary Olney's position in regard to congressional acknowledgment of Cuban independence is right. Speaking of the policy of recognizing Cuban independence, he said there was no insurgent government, merely bands of outlaws. If this country interferes by arms it will be a declaration of war with Spain, against which government we have no grievance. It would be gross and unjustifiable violation of international law.

Bank Directors There.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—[By Associated Press]—A committee of directors of the Illinois National Bank, of Chicago, that recently failed, is here to confer with Comptroller Eckels concerning matters pertaining to the bank's suspension.

In good time to have your magazines bound for the holidays.

HE COMES TO CANTON.

Mr. and Mrs. McKinley Once More in Stark County.

HE HAS HAD A GOOD TIME.

If He Brought the Cabinet Back With Him He has not Announced It—He Will not Maintain a Permanent Residence in Canton.

CANTON, Dec. 24.—Mr. and Mrs. McKinley returned to Canton at 1:21 Wednesday afternoon, as quietly as they went away and were driven at once to their home, which has undergone complete renovation since their departure for Chicago. The Major had a delightful time. The change, he said, was agreeable and although his callers were very many they were as he characterized them, of the "God bless you variety." That which gave him the greatest pleasure was the eagerness of the people of limited means—indeed the very poor people, to see him. While with Captain and Mrs. McWilliams, his hosts kept open house, and he saw all who called. He aimed, however, to be out a great deal, driving about the parks in an open carriage, and going to a few private entertainments. He carried out his original intention of accepting no public hospitality. He had intended going to Chicago in the usual public car, and had ordered staterooms for the trip. When he reached the station, both in Canton and Chicago, he found the private car of Vice President Brooks set aside for his occupancy. The Major was clearly in his happiest frame of mind and the inquiry was ventured whether he had brought the cabinet appointments with him from Chicago.

"Well, if I have," said he, "I haven't announced them." Turning to Senator Shoup he inquired in a humorous way what member of that body the Idaho man wished the Senate to contribute to the cabinet. Mr. Shoup was at a loss for a prompt reply. Perhaps modesty forbade him from speaking. Any way the badinage continued for some time. The expression imputed to Mr. McKinley by Godfrey Morse, of Boston, "On that I had an Olney for the cabinet," was spoken of. No such observation ever escaped the President-elect. He is of the opinion that there are a good many men in this country. Scarcely of material is not what is embarrassing him. Mr. McKinley does not now expect to leave Canton again, although, of course, his plans are subject to change at will. The Chicago report that Mrs. McKinley would go to Atlantic City and New York was brought up, and he remarked that if she went out of town he would certainly follow.

It will disappoint Cantonians to know that when the McKinleys go to Washington they will turn over their present home to Mrs. Geo. D. Hart, its owner, negotiations for its purchase having fallen through. The major was hopeful of obtaining the property, and had his succeeded would have kept it in condition for use at all times. In speaking this afternoon of its associations he said that about it over 756,000 people had gathered during the campaign. Mr. Hanna it seems, secured reports from the passing agents after the election, showing that 756,000 people had gone to Canton on excursion trains, this number not including, of course, the thousands who went on regular trains and over electric lines. Senator Shoup, of Idaho, was the only prominent visitor this afternoon. He said that his call had no great significance. Others who dropped in were Secretary of State W. M. McFarland, of Iowa, and former Governor L. Bradford Prince, of New Mexico. Mr. McFarland had been visiting relatives in Jackson county, and his call had nothing to do with the reported elevation of Senator Allison to the cabinet. Mr. McFarland said that Iowa people were of one mind in respect to the desirability of such an appointment, but he did not believe that Mr. Allison would accept any cabinet place unless it was at the head of the state department.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.

Senator Wolcott has Drafted a Bill on the Subject.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—[By Associated Press]—Friends of the movement for an international monetary conference expect that the question will be brought up in the Senate soon after the holidays. Senator Wolcott, chairman of the census committee on that subject, has drafted a bill as a basis of action.

The disposition of members of the committee to allow the President to fix the number of the commissioners, following the course of other nations in that regard; also to allow the President to make the appointments. An appropriation will be made to carry the act into effect. The purpose of the bill is to furnish the President means of carrying out the declaration of the Republican platform. The committee is encouraged by reports of a prospect of securing a conference and of its success.

The Kentucky Extra Session.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Dec. 26.—[By Associated Press]—Gossip now fix March 5 as the day for calling the extra session of the legislature. That will enable Gov. Bradley to carry out his idea regarding the vacancy and give the new senator an opportunity to serve in the extra session of congress.

MATTESON LOCATED.

Said to Have Been Arrested in Buffalo for Embezzlement.

CANTON, Dec. 24.—It is reported here this morning that George Matteson, the New York agent for the Berger Manufacturing Company, of Canton, has been arrested in Buffalo. Matteson is alleged to have absconded with \$10,000 of the company's money. He had been in Canada, it seems, but came over to Buffalo to see a friend.

In the estate of Bernard Welty, of Sugar Creek township, appraisal of partnership assets and liabilities of the firm of Bernard Welty & Bro. has been filed.

The will of Aaron Altland, of Tuscarawas township, has been admitted to probate. W. D. Oberlin has been appointed executor.

James H. Hunt and Otto E. Young have been appointed executors of the estate of Anson Pease, of Massillon.

The will of Valentine Pfirman, of Massillon, has been filed for probate.

A first partial account has been filed in the estate of James Allen, of Sugar Creek township.

The will of John G. Waechter, of Canton, has been filed for probate.

The first partial account has been filed in the estate of Susan Casterton, of Canton.

Marriage licenses have been granted to H. W. Smith and Ella May Reinhold, of Sippo; Edward F. Hissner and Mary B. Allardice, of Canton; George Williams and Daisy Hensel, of Navarre; and Geo. M. Black and Lizzie S. Amos, of Beach City.

CAPT. FOLGER'S TALE.

An Adventure Described in His Log Book.

HIS LAST TRIP ON THE TOPAZ.

A Account Written in 1808 of the Discovery on Pitcairn's Island of Smith, the Surviving Mutineer of the Ship Bounty.

Among the treasures in the library of Robert H. Folger, Esq., is the log book of his father, Capt. Mayhew Folger, master of the good ship Topaz. Capt. Folger circumnavigated the globe three times, completing his last cruise in 1810, and moving to Massillon where he died in 1828. While on this last cruise Capt. Folger discovered the surviving mutineer of the ship Bounty, and his colony on Pitcairn Island, and in his log book, now owned by his son, the adventure is described as follows:

"Saturday, Feb. 1, 1808.—At 2 a. m. saw Pitcairn's island, bearing south. On approaching the shore saw smoke, at which I was surprised, as the island was said to be uninhabited. I saw a boat paddling toward me with three men in her. I went ashore and found an Englishman named Alexander Smith, the only person remaining out of nine that escaped on board the ship Bounty. Smith informed me that after sending Captain Bligh adrift, Christian, their chief, proceeded with the ship to Otaheiti. There all the mutineers chose to stop except Christian, himself, and seven others, who took wives, and also six men as servants, and proceeded to Pitcairn's island, where they ran the Bounty on shore and broke her up. This took place in the year 1790. Soon after one of their party drowned himself, another died of a fever, and, after they had remained about four years on the island, their men servants rose up and killed six of them, leaving only Smith. However, he and the widows arose and put all the servants to death, which left him the only surviving man on the island, with eight or nine women and several small children. He lives very comfortably as commander in chief of Pitcairn's island. Whatever may have been the crimes or errors of Smith, the mutineer, he is at present a worthy man and may be useful to navigators who traverse this immense ocean."

SOME FINE RACING.

The Local Trotters Make a Fine Showing.

The horsemen of the city enjoyed two hours of genuine sport in East Main street, Friday afternoon. There was just enough snow on the paved street to carry the cutters along smoothly, and the improvised race course between the car barn and High street was a scene of great activity for a time.

The horses were all fast, some with records and others with theirs yet to make, and among them were S. and F. Christian Knuth; Grover Cleveland, 2:21½; William Vogt; J. R. 2:29½ and Charlie C. 2:21½. H. F. Pocock; Prince Acollite and Dauby, William Pletzer; Rowdy Boy, C. H. Roaloph; Sprit, C. F. Porter; Ayers, 2:31½; J. C. Streeter; Sally Walker, 2:28½; and Selim 2:34; Alfred Diehlenn; George Cloud, 19½; E. L. Hemperly; Edison, 2:19½; J. M. Schuckers; Beaver, 2:40; Geo. Swier; and horses owned by Thomas Hopkins, and W. B. Humbberger. It was as fine an array of horsemanship as any one could wish to see, and as a person familiar with such matters said this morning there are not many towns this size in Ohio that produce one like it.

An Official Detail.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—[By Associated Press]—It can be denied officially and authoritatively that any European government either directly or otherwise has made any representation to the United States to restrain or prevent its free action in Cuba affairs.

Wright's Celery Tea regulates the liver and kidneys, cures constipation and sick headache. 25c at all druggists.

UNDER HIS ENGINE.

Jesse Houghton Instantly Killed on Thursday.

A VERY SAD CHRISTMAS EVE.

The Engine Leaves the Track at Warren, and Plunges Down an Embankment—The Fireman Injured—The Body Brought to Massillon.

A fatal accident occurred on the Wheeling & Lake Erie railway at Biggers' curve, near Warren, Thursday afternoon. The victims were Engineer Jesse E. Houghton, of Massillon, and Fireman Haynes, of Ironville. Engineer Houghton was killed instantly. His fireman, however, escaped with severe injuries and will recover. Houghton and Haynes were alone in the engine and were running light from Jewett to Wheeling, having helped a heavy train over the grade. At Biggers' curve the locomotive left the track with a lurch and plunged down an embankment. Haynes' escape from instant death was miraculous. He received several bruises and was badly scalded about his head and shoulders but his condition is not dangerous. The accident occurred at about 3 o'clock and Engineer Houghton's body was not recovered from the wreck until nearly 8, and it was past 10 o'clock when it was conveyed to Massillon. Mr. Houghton was 30 years of age, married and resided in South Erie street. He was popular among the company's employees and was considered one of the most careful of engine men.

It has been decided by the W. & L. E. company, after a careful investigation, that the Biggers curve accident was caused by Engineer Houghton striking the curve with a light engine at too high a rate of speed. The track was not defective and there was nothing broken at the locomotive that would cause it to be derailed. Mr. Houghton was killed instantly beyond a doubt, for he never left his seat, and when found was pinned between it and the fire box. The body will be taken to Norwalk on Sunday afternoon at 1:10 o'clock for burial. Services will be conducted, however, at the South Erie street residence at 12 o'clock Sunday. The Rev. E. L. Kemp, rector of St. Timothy's church, will officiate.

DIED AT CANAL FULTON.

W. B. Kirk, a Pioneer Citizen, Passes Away.

CANAL FULTON, Dec. 26.—Wm. B. Kirk, one of the pioneers of this community, died at his residence on the west side at 1 o'clock this morning. Mr. Kirk was born here in 1830, sixty-six years ago, and lived here all his life. He was a quiet, unassuming citizen, and always enjoyed the respect and confidence of the community. He served the people at various times in nearly all the elective offices of the township and village and always with fidelity. He was township trustee at the time of his death. He will be mourned and missed by a large circle of friends as well as by the community in general. He leaves a wife and four children to mourn his loss. They are Mrs. L. Stock and Richard, of Topka, Kan., and Mrs. Dr. Jones and Charles of this place. The funeral will take place today (Saturday) at 2 p. m.

THE OLDEST PIONEER.

Michael Gonder, the oldest pioneer of Lawrence township, died at his residence, two miles south of this place, at noon yesterday, at the advanced age of 88 years. Mr. Gonder, though some what feeble, was as well as usual Christmas morning. Being missed from the house for a short time, search was made and he was found dead near a corn crib, where he had gone with a bucket to get some corn to feed his chickens. He had filled the bucket with corn, closed the door of the crib, and was about to return to the house when death overtook him. Mr. Gonder came to Lawrence township from Pennsylvania early in the thirties and ever since has been one of the sterling men of the community whose whole life has been above reproach. He had a high sense of honor and honesty and his word was as good as his bond wherever he was known. He was a kind neighbor and a warm and generous friend, loved and respected by all who knew him. He had three children, two of whom with his wife, have been dead for some time. One daughter, Mrs. Zephaniah Miller, survives him.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS.

Christmas was celebrated here much as usual, with the usual number of family gatherings, good dinners and good cheer. Appropriate exercises by the Sabbath school were held at the various churches. A ripple of excitement was caused at the M. E. church, when during the exercises on Christmas eve, Mr. Bently West and Miss Laura Arter stepped forward and were married in the holy bonds of matrimony by the pastor, the Rev. R. M. Yoder.

DEATH OF MRS. GEIGER.

Mrs. John Geiger aged 75 years, dropped dead of heart failure, this morning. Mrs. Geiger lived with an imbecile daughter and was found by the latter. Mrs. Geiger died while dressing.

David McGhie and Miss Gertrude Moore, of Canal Fulton, were married at Massillon Wednesday night.

Died of Hydrophobia.

BAITMORE, Dec. 26.—[By Associated Press]—Conrad Eppers was bitten by a mad dog a month ago and afterward treated at the Pasteur Institute in New York. He died today of hydrophobia. Another bitten about the same time has died, and a third shows symptoms of the dread disease.

Subscribe for THE INDEPENDENT.

THE BIG HORN

On Its Way to Canton via Massillon—Object of the Trip.

CANTON, Dec. 26.—Messrs. Robert E. Hale, M. F. Stanton, N. S. Lyons, O. Williams and A. H. Blanchard, comprising the Big Horn committee started on November 16 to walk from Decatur, Ill. to Canton, carrying an immense tin horn, which on their arrival will be presented to President elect McKinley. The horn is gilded and is 30 feet in length and weighs 100 pounds. Its bearers agreed to reach Canton by Jan. 1 and to accumulate \$1,000. They were in Mt. Vernon on Wednesday and had already gained \$850 by exhibiting the horn and selling pictures. If successful in their undertaking they will be presented with \$1,000 by the citizens of Decatur. The committee will probably reach Massillon on Wednesday.

PROBATE COURT NOTES.

Sylvester S. Ronkel, of Marchand, has assigned to Peter J. Frank. The assets are \$2,500 and the liabilities are not estimated.

The will of John Stagle, of Paris township, has been filed for probate.

Charles A. Waechter has been appointed executor of the estate of John G. Waechter, of Canton.

First partial accounts have been filed in the estate of Samuel Eschman, of Lawrence township, and the guardianship of Ettie M. and John O. Coy, of Nimishillen township.

Marriage licenses have been granted to David E. McGee and Gertrude Moore, of Canal Fulton; Ben. C. Jones and Grace Robertson, of Canton; Varne E. Cable and Ollie Carnes, of Sparta, and John H. Hoover and Catharine Edwards of North Lawrence.

NEWS FROM NEAR BY TOWNS.

WEST BROOKFIELD NOTES.

WEST BROOKFIELD, Oct. 26.—M. R. Miller is spending his holidays in Jefferson county at the home of his college friend, Mr. Cole. The Rev. H. A. Shafer and family spent Christmas with his parents. Our public schools closed for the holiday vacation with interesting and appropriate exercises. The exercises in the Sunday schools passed off pleasantly. The only number rendered that was not on the programme was the accidental burning of the beard from Santa Claus in the M. E. church, which caused considerable excitement but no serious damage.

INJURED IN THE MINGLEWOOD.

NORTH LAWRENCE, Dec. 26.—James Corbett was so badly injured by a premature explosion of powder in the Minglewood mine Thursday evening, that his recovery is doubtful. One leg is badly fractured and his body is covered with bruises and cuts. Internal complications may also arise. He is 42 years of age and has a family.

A NAVARRE WEDDING.

NAVARRE, Dec. 26.—The marriage of Miss Minnie Mae Bowers to John S. Hitchcock, of Chicago, was solemnized at high noon, Thursday, at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Bowers, by the Rev. W. S. Coder, of Canal Fulton. The bride was given away by her father, while William March was the groom's best man. The presents to the bride were numerous. The young couple left for Uhrichville in the evening, where they will spend the holidays at the home of the groom's parents before taking up their residence in Chicago, at which place Mr. Hitchcock holds an important position in a railroad office. Among the out of town guests were Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Van Dorsten, of Cleveland; Mrs. E. F. Warner, of Bellevue; Mrs. Fannie Cupples, Mrs. C. W. Cupples, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Stansbury, of Massillon.

FOR THE FULL AMOUNT.

ORRVILLE, Dec. 23.—Sleighting in this locality is prime now and our people are taking advantage of it. The Rev. Mr. Jeffries, of Applecreek, has a number of scholars here who are taking lessons in sleighting. The Barrett Brewing Company, of Cleveland, brought suit against C. A. Stahl, a saloon keeper here, for the payment of \$100 for a carload of beer. Stahl claims that it soured and was no good, but expert testimony proved that it was all right and the jury awarded the plaintiff judgment for the amount of their bill. Mr. John W. Linsinger, the popular groceryman on Market street, had his left eye badly hurt last evening, by a corn stalk penetrating the corner of his eye. Mr. H. L. D. Fiscus, of Massillon, visited several days last week with his cousin, J. M. Fiscus and family, in South Main street. The Baughman Manufacturing Company has again started up with Daniel Quinlan as manager in the absence of J. Leatherman, of Wadsworth.

The indications for coal on the J. W. Baird farm, south of town, are good, and the drillers are prospecting there now. A. D. Snyder, for a number of years employed by the W. & L. E. railroad as a carpenter, has resigned his position with them, and accepted another position for the erection of a steel building in Cleveland. Clyde McMullen, who has been attending a military school in New York, is home to spend the holidays with his parents. Miss Oda Hawk, of Dalton, visited with friends here on last Monday. Mrs. J. D. Leickheim and Mrs. B. M. Morris visited with Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Taggart, of Massillon, Monday. The following are the officers installed in Wayne Post No. 296, G. A. R.: T. B. Myers, post commander, H. Newcomer, senior vice; H. Bowman, junior vice; M. R. Zell, quartermaster; J. W. Hostetter, chaplain; A. Gift, surgeon; Levi Neiswanger, officer of the day; John Brant, officer of the guard; A. Gift and J. A. Shunk, trustees; J. A. Hamilton, representative; J. W. Hostetter, alternate. The officers of Cedar Lodge No. 480, F. & A. M., were duly installed at their last meeting.

Wright's Celery Tea cures constipation, sick headache. 25c at all druggists.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1896.

The three national banks of Massillon have reported their condition on Dec. 17th. The aggregate of loans and discounts is \$1,523,728, and of deposits \$1,147,295. On the date of the last report, October 6th, the loans and discounts amounted to \$1,624,440, and the deposits to \$1,167,702. One year ago, Dec. 13, 1895, the loans and discounts were \$1,614,753 and the deposits \$1,179,220. On the whole there is little variation in the routine of local business, but the tone of it seems to be fairly healthful.

It appears from a communication of Secretary Carlisle to the Senate that a resolution which Mr. Gallinger offered on the 9th of May last had an immediate and marked effect. The New York Sun mentions that the resolution called for the number of aliens employed in the executive departments. Mr. Carlisle delayed his share of the answer until the present session, and when it came it showed that out of thirty-five aliens employed in the Treasury Department on the 9th of May, no fewer than twelve got out their naturalization papers before June 1 following. Concerning the citizenship of five others there seems to be some question, while a sixth had resigned. Mr. Gallinger expressed the opinion that the purpose of his resolution was getting accomplished.

Arthur Houghton, of Madrid, has written a thoughtful article on the effects of Spanish misrule in Cuba. If Spain does succeed in reconquering the island, he says that it entails a war of from two to three years; a money expenditure of not less than \$300,000,000; the sacrifice of the lives of 50,000 Spanish soldiers. That is what the reconquest implies to Spain. To Cuba it means the slaughter of the greater part of the Cuban male population; the ruin of every industry in the country, with small hope of any speedy revival; the necessity of remaining for generations at least under the baneful influence of the policy of *la realista nacional*. No reasonable person can doubt that Spain will allow no change in her political and economical policy towards Cuba if she is successful in finally quelling the rebellion. Even now murmurs are heard in the peninsula of the compensation to be enacted for the sacrifices now being made to crush the rebels—in other words, Cuba for the Spaniards, not for the Cubans.

GEN. LEE'S FLIGHT.

There is a great deal of truth in the complaint that if the Senate committee on foreign relations acted hastily in recommending for passage the resolution presented by Senator Cameron, it is because of the effort of the administration to hold back the information in its possession. General Lee, our consul general at Havana, was asked to appear before the Senate committee. The day before the date fixed for his appearance he was ordered by the state department to leave Washington, the reason given for this action being the alleged necessity for his presence in Cuba. On arriving in Florida, instead of sailing to Havana at once, General Lee waited and is still waiting. A Washington correspondent, discussing this phase of the matter, says:

"The Senate foreign committee certainly had the right, before taking action in the case of Cuba, to seek for such official information upon it as was in the possession of Mr. Cleveland, or as could be communicated without detriment to the public interests. The privilege of seeing the written report of General Lee and the consular reports from Cuba, and other documents in the hands of the secretary of state, had been denied to it. How could it form a satisfactory judgment upon the subject? How debate properly a question regarding which direct official information was withheld? An hour with General Lee would have been of incalculable advantage to the committee."

"He could have thrown light upon matters that lie in obscurity, and could have cleared away doubts existing in the minds of members of the committee. He might have made revelations which would have affected the purposes of congress. He might have helped members to understand the bearing of some of the passages in the Cuban section of Mr. Cleveland's message. He might, indeed, have rendered a service to the committee which would have been of advantage to his country, even though it might fail to vindicate the Cuban policy of the administration. Mr. Cleveland had his way in this case, as in so many other cases. It was doubtless under instructions from him that General Lee took a course at once singular and wrongful, not to say discreditable to the executive."

Isaac H. Myers, of Western Ohio, recommends Wright's Celery Capsules.

WOOSTER, O., May 21, 1896. To the Wright Medical Co., Columbus, O.: Gents—I have purchased a box of Wright's Celery Capsules from Geo. Krieger, druggist, and used them for rheumatism and constipation. One of my arms was so badly afflicted that I could not remove my coat without assistance, and after using one box all pain had entirely left it. The medicine did me more good than anything I ever took. Yours very truly, ISAAC H. MYERS.

A NIGHT OF GRAND OPERA.

Among the World's Greatest Singers.

MUSIC AND NEW YORK SOCIETY.

Sights in the Great Metropolitan Opera House—The Peerless Famos and Her Husband—Litvinne and Nordica—The De Reszkes, Mantelli and Calve.

[Special Correspondence.]

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—The opera season at the Metropolitan is well under way, but never since the huge temple at Thirty-ninth street and Broadway reared its head have audiences so frigid convened within its walls. New York is sated with the best singers the world can afford, and it seems this season as though it had made up its mind to give about one tepid clap per week, and that only when some combination of stars ranged to the footlights and clamored as with one voice for recognition. The hot blooded enthusiasm which had its zenith with Patti has ebbed out, and there is left hardly enough polite approval to keep the artists on their mettle. They feel it.

Yet they sing superbly, and no more perfect company has been gathered together than the present, all but for Nordica—poor Nordica—who is banished for sake of Mme. Felia Litvinne, the sister-in-law of Edouard de Reszke, and who spoke with such simple dignity to the public press on the deprival of her hard won territory. She had worked hard to score her triumphs "in my own country and before my own people," as she touchingly put it. But never mind, Nordica; you are missed, and sadly.

All in the Family.

Litvinne does not touch Nordica's clear, scintillant vocalization, and then,



A SCENE IN THE LOBBY.

alas, the new member of the De Reszke family has run grossly out of drawing. So wide and deep is the lady's physique that when she sings the men in the vaudeville box say: "Bon Dieu! If only she'd move nearer the wings and give us a chance to see somebody else for a minute!" Litvinne travels largely on the family. She is experienced, but uninteresting, and often wanders mournfully from the key. She has helped to unloose in the opera house a pent up feeling against De Reszke monopoly, and biting things begin to be said round the lobbies. "Ah, now we have them, the loving family!" went the rounds when Jean, Edouard and Litvinne appeared in the "Huguenots" and Willy Schutz, their devoted brother-in-law, beamed on them from the front. "But when, oh, when, will we have them all?" yearned a scoffer. "When will Edouard's children be ready to come on with their dear papa and uncle and aunt? And why can't Jean's new wife go on and sing? Oh, we're getting entirely too little of a good thing!"

Eames is with us, the same radiant, supremely poised daughter of the gods, but fallen into lines of figure more slender than two seasons ago. Her lovely head, like that of a thoroughbred racer, is held with the same imperious pride—only a noble pride, since it can melt into a tender, truthful smile at every little touch of feeling. Her voice is cleared of the film that had begun to obscure it when she sang her before and is now brilliant, clear and at times even strangely sweet. There is a new, penitential pathos about it when she sings a simple song which goes straight to the heart. On the other hand, she has broadened immensely on the dramatic side of her art and sings with nobly increased volume and freedom. But the little, new, poignant note, which yet has a tender bloom—whence has it come? Not from any personal sorrow. Perhaps from the closer watching of others' sorrows, for Eames is the happiest prima donna on earth.

Story's Admiration.

She has a husband, Julian Story, who adores her and whom she adores in return. She is the prima donna of whom everybody says, "She is madly in love with her husband, and he worships the ground she treads on, but," they will sometimes add, "he is jealous." This is because Story stands in the

wings while his beautiful wife sings and watches her every gesture, particularly in those love episodes where her exquisite beauty makes her so ideal a figure in the scene. But the gossip mistake. It is not jealousy that gleams in his eye; nothing but intense admiration and enthusiasm for the great woman artist whom he regards so proudly. Other prima donnas have husbands, but they don't always travel with them, or if they do they don't seem to be exactly hopelessly dependent on each other. These husbands don't stand waiting in the wings. Other persons do sometimes; but then, nobody ever thinks of calling those others "jealous." They are "those others" who have too well assimilated the truth dominant in Bohemia "sonvent femme varie" to bother about jealousy. Outside this Bohemia, Eames proudly stands.

Melba is very stout, otherwise the same Melba as to glorious voice and monotonous bearing. She declared she never would get stout, but she has. She also declared she would marry the violinist Timothee Adamowski, the much loved and very fashionable Tim of Boston, but she hasn't. Adamowski, however, is faithful and hovers around her perpetually. As for society at the opera, the boxes have this year been converted absolutely into nests of chatter and dress exactly in keeping with those at the horse show. The smart set don't make even a pretense of listening to the music. If you ask them anything about it, they will say: "Oh, the same old operas! We've heard them 50 times." But everybody isn't in society's shoes, and the music loving people who have to struggle to hear one or two operas a season are much disturbed by the impolite apathy of these low necked, sleeveless swells who keep up an opera glass fusillade all evening.

An Artist's Experiences.

Their effect on the artists, too, is disastrous. We won't mention the artist's name lest she might kill him next time with a glare, but one of the best male members of the company was recently thrown out by a lady's misbehavior. The way he described it as translated into English was this: "I came on. I



A SCENE IN THE LOBBY.

had my big solo. None of the boxes paid much attention to the stage. There was a virago in yellow right in the middle of the grand tier—yes, a virago; she looked bold and bad tempered. The second I began she stuck up her opera glass and glared at me through it. Then she bounced round in her chair, with a look as much as to say, 'He's not worth noticing.' Will you believe it, I hated that woman, yet I couldn't take my eyes off her. She fidgeted and talked and jumped about like a bundle of wires. At last she shifted so much that she got her back to me. Then I could sing better—she had been ruining my work all along—because I hadn't to see her hard, unmusical face."

If you want to see the real people of interest who go to the Metropolitan, walk round the big lobby of the orchestra between the acts. Every good musician in town and all the artists, literary men and clever women who are not too conventional to promenade are there. The men of brains sprinkled through the boxes also come down to hear the latest thing which probably won't get published and to retail the spiciest social gossip from up stairs—the spiteful, jealous, snobbish up stairs—which can spend three hours very comfortably picking holes in its neighbors.

Great, but Simple.

Mantelli, the favorite contralto, is back, handsome and in better voice than ever. She replaces Scacchi delightfully in boy roles, aside from her prima donna roles, being much more slender and graceful. She is one of the greatest but simplest among the artists, a beautiful, domestic young woman, who brings over her two Italian servants and takes a pretty furnished house in New York because she must have home life, not a hotel. On the nights she doesn't sing you may always see her sitting in front in the orchestra exquisitely gowned, her gaze intent upon the stage and always the first to break into loud clapping and even a cry of "Brava!" for any good work by her fellow artists.

All the artists are usually sprinkled through the orchestra on their off nights, except Jean de Reszke and his brother. Jean does not like being seen with his war paint off; neither does he take any interest in the other singers.

Varied Gossip.

As for Calve, she is with another companion. This is her third year and

THE INAUGURATION.

Executive Chairman Bell Making Good Progress.

PENSION OFFICE FOR THE BALL.

Mr. Bell and Pension Commissioner Murphy Conferred This Morning Regarding It—The Famous Ohio Troop A as Personal Escort to Major McKinley.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—Executive Chairman Bell and Pension Commissioner Murphy conferred this morning regarding changes to be made in the pension building, which is to be used for the inaugural ball.

Good progress is being made on the preparations for the inauguration of President McKinley. Executive Chairman Bell has accomplished much within



CHARLES J. BELL.

the past day or two, and all the sub-committees are actively at work in perfecting the arrangements under their charge.

Major General Nelson A. Miles has been appointed and accepted the chairmanship of the inauguration reception committee. This is considered the principal committee, in point of honor and dignity. It includes the senators and representatives, who will be named by the two branches of congress, distinguished jurists, officials of the District of Columbia and prominent citizens of Washington.

Special care has been taken to provide for the colored visitors, who expect to be here during the inauguration. Twenty-eight colored members of the committee on public comfort have been organized into a sub-committee, with Robert H. Terrell as chairman. This committee will attend to all communications received from colored military and civic organizations and from individuals. There has been considerable correspondence in connection with the reception of colored visitors already. Chairman Levi P. Wright, of the public comfort committee, has answered all communications promptly, and has endeavored to dissipate any doubt that might exist regarding the proper entertainment of these visitors.

General Horace Porter, who will be in command of the inaugural parade, has appointed A. N. Blakeman of New York chief of staff, and Colonel H. C. Corbin, U. S. A., as special aids. Other appointments will be made from time to time. General Porter has already perfected the outlines of the arrangements for the big parade and has decided that when once started it will not be allowed to stop until the disbanding point is reached. Both military and civic organizations will be required to march in columns of 24 front, instead of 16, as heretofore, and in close order, the purpose being to have 12,000 marchers pass a given point each hour.

The question of position in the parade will be determined by the order in



CAPTAIN R. E. BURDICK.

which the several states represented came into the union. Large representations of naval cadets from the naval academy at Annapolis and the West Point military academy are expected.

Circular letters to governors of states are in course of preparation, asking information as to their personal escort and the number of state troops, who expect to take part in the parade, and similar information will be requested from mayors of cities as to civic organizations.

As is well known, the famous Cleveland Troop A is to lead the crack military organizations in the parade and act as personal escort to Major McKinley. Captain R. F. Burdick, a prominent business man of Cleveland, is the commander.

Prominent Mining Man Killed.

BUTTE, Mont., Dec. 26.—In a shooting scrape at the Southern Cross mine, in Deer Lodge county, D. A. Riley, the well-known mining man, was shot through the heart and instantly killed and John McIntyre, his slayer, also received a bullet in his right hand. McIntyre claims self defense.

Faster Succi Goes Insane.

PARIS, Dec. 26.—Succi, the Italian faster who has given exhibitions of his endurance in the United States, became insane after a performance and was taken to a hospital.

THE BOSTON STRIKE.

Men Soon Went Back to Work Because Not Backed Up—Some Discharged.

BOSTON, Dec. 26.—The speedy ending of the street car strike began to be anticipated when, in spite of the efforts of the union men, the employees of the South Boston lines refused to join in the movement.

Meanwhile the executive council of the union was trying to convince the importunate strikers that the movement could not be expected to succeed when it had been begun in violation of the promise of the council to defer the step until the directors of the road should have time to consider the agreement presented by the men. At last the argument of the company prevailed, and although the decision to declare the strike off is not satisfactory to many of the employees, nevertheless, the subject has been presented to them in such a light that they can see no other way of maintaining the honor of their committee, or of their union. As soon as the news of the committee's action became known, the men returned to work.

The first official act of the West End management was to discharge 120 conductors and motormen of Division 6 (Charlestown). President Young of the Conductors, Motormen and Drivers' union headed the list. More than 100 discharges were also made on Division 2 (Loux street line) and it is said that a blacklist has been prepared by the company, which contains the name of every employee of the company who actively participated in the strike.

It is generally thought among the conductors and motormen that the action of the supreme council means that the managers have until next Monday to sign an agreement submitted by the men recognizing them as a union, instead of individuals. If the company refuses to do this another strike may be ordered.

The conservative members, however, argue that a strike now would be the height of folly. In event of a strike being ordered, many of these men would refuse to go out.

The recruiting office of the West End has registered about 1,000 men who are supposed to be competent, besides receiving hundreds of applications by mail.

MOTORMAN NEARLY LYNCHED.

His Car Struck and Killed a Bohemian Boy in Chicago.

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—George E. Demark, 7 years of age, has been killed by a trolley car at Throop and Eighteenth streets. Fred Bernier, motorman, was threatened with lynching for killing the boy and was with great difficulty rescued from a mob of Bohemians.

After the boy had been killed Motorman Bernier took refuge in the car, which stood within a few feet of where the boy was killed, and in an instant it was besieged by angry men. He attempted to keep them out by latching the doors on the inside, but they broke the doors in, knocked him down and kicked and beat him for a few moments in a shocking manner. He managed, however, to get away from them and ran to the door of a drugstore, where he was handed a pistol and also admitted inside by the proprietor before any further harm befell him.

The crowd surged around the door, yelling: "Break it in. Kill him. Kill him."

It looked for a minute as if the store would be raked. But the proprietor, Mr. Krivak, brought out a Winchester rifle and pointing it at the door, threatened that the first man who entered with death. Police came to the rescue.

TO MAKE ARID LAND PRODUCTIVE.

Western Railroads Will Make Important Tests of Soil Culture.

OMAHA, Dec. 26.—H. W. Campbell, a prominent soil culturist of Sioux City, has just signed an important contract with the Burlington railroad. Mr. Campbell has been experimenting for the last three years on a process of turning the arid belt of lands in Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas and the Dakotas into crop-producing districts.

The experiments have been of such a successful nature that he has also induced the Northern Pacific, the Soo line and the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul roads to enter into the scheme. Starting in the spring of the coming year, the roads have agreed to each establish five experimental stations. The farms will consist of 40-acre tracts and the products raised will consist of corn, oats, wheat, rye and all varieties of vegetables.

Bryan Don't Like to Lecture.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 26.—William J. Bryan stopped here an hour on his way from the lecture at Atlanta. While saying that his lecture there was a success, it is understood that he does not look with favor on his lecture engagement and may ask to be relieved. He remarked to a close friend that he had made a mistake in undertaking to deliver a series of non-partisan lectures.

A Noted Catholic Author Dead.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—Mrs. Anna Hanson Dorsey, the pioneer of Catholic literature in this country, has died here aged 83 years. She was honored with personal letters from Pius IX, and also from Pope Leo. A few years ago Cardinal Gibbons paid public tribute to her work.

Not Suicide, But Murder.

CLARKES, S. D., Dec. 26.—Christian Christensen has just been convicted of wife murder and sentenced to the penitentiary for life. It was supposed that his wife had committed suicide. Circumstantial evidence was found which rendered the suicide theory untenable.

Entertained Admiral Beardslee.

LIMA, Peru, Dec. 26.—The matinee entertainment given by Mr. Richard R. Neill, secretary of the United States legation, in honor of Admiral Beardslee of the United States cruiser Philadelphia, proved a great success.

Two Killed in Drunken Quarrel.

RATHBUNVILLE, N. Y., Dec. 26.—William Allen, William Herrington and Cloyd Myers quarreled about the possession of a buffalo robe while in an intoxicated condition. Myers shot both the others fatally.

Maher Again Whipped O'Donnell.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Peter Maher knocked out Steve O'Donnell in 27 seconds. Thirteen months ago he knocked him out in 63 seconds.

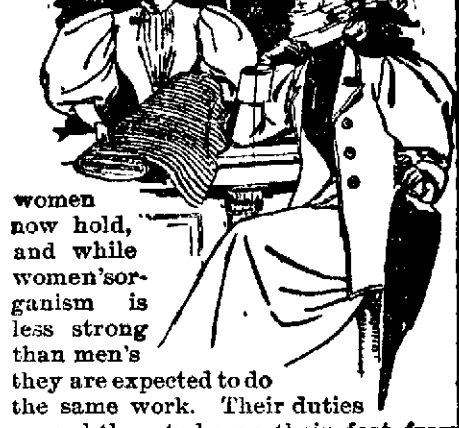
TIRED SALESWOMEN.

EMPLOYERS SHOULD BE MORE CONSIDERATE.

Interesting Statement by a Young Lady in Brooklyn.

In the vast retail establishments of large cities, many women are employed as saleswomen.

Men formerly held the positions that



women now hold, and while women's organization is less strong than men's they are expected to do the same work. Their duties compel them to be on their feet from morning to night, and many of them, in a short time, contract these distressing complaints called "female diseases."

Then occur irregularities, suppressed or painful menstruation, weakness, indigestion, leucorrhoea, general debility and nervous prostration.

They are beset with such symptoms as dizziness, faintness, lassitude, excitability, irritability, nervousness, sleeplessness, melancholy, "all-gone" and "want-to-be-left-alone" feelings, blues and hopelessness.

In such cases there is one tried and true remedy. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound at once removes such troubles. The following is a sample:

"My dear Mrs. Pinkham:—After waiting you, and before your answer came, I was too miserable to go to the store, and so lost my position. That was five weeks ago. I am now back again in my old place, and never felt so well in all my life. The bearing-down pains and whites have left me, and I am not a bit nervous or blue. Life looks brighter to me. I don't get tired, my temper is real sweet, and I could scream right out sometimes for joy."

Your Vegetable Compound is my standby. You don't know how thankful I am to you for saving me from suffering. Every woman in my position should know of your wonderful remedy. I never saw you, but I love you for being so good to me."

—W. 6th Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

TONSILINE

Is a perfect family remedy for all throat diseases—Sore Throat, Sore Mouth and Quinsy quickly yield to its virtues. It is not slow and tedious in its

CURES

but gives almost instant relief. Tonsiline is entirely harmless. It stands alone as a remarkable and modern cure for

SORE THROAT

and all similar troubles.

25 and 50c. at all druggists. THE TONSILINE CO., CANTON, O.

Sheriff's Sale.

THE STATE OF OHIO {Ss. STARK COUNTY }
G. L. Albright, Trustee }
vs. } ORDER OF SALE
Catherine Becker, et al. }
By the clerk of the court of said county of Stark county, Ohio, and to me directed, I will offer for sale at public auction, at the door of the court house, in the city of Canton, on

Saturday, January 23, 1897, the following described real estate, to-wit: Situated in the township of Perry, county of Stark, State of Ohio, and known as and being a part of the north east quarter of section No. 25, in township No. 16 and range No. 9, and bounded as follows: Beginning at a stake on the south line of said quarter, distant westerly therefrom two hundred and twenty-three (223) feet from the south-east corner of said quarter, and running thence west on said north line, north eighty-seven and one-half (87 1/2) degrees, west thirty-one hundred and thirty-one (3131) feet, to a stone at the southeast corner of land herebefore owned by George Schweitzer, thence north on the line parallel with the east line of said quarter, north two hundred and nineteen (219) feet, to a stone on the north line of said quarter, thence east to said north line of said quarter, south eighty-seven and one-half (87 1/2) degrees, east thirteen hundred and thirty-one (1331) feet, to another stone on said north line, thence southerly on a line parallel with the east line of said quarter, south two hundred and one-half (201 1/2) degrees, west two thousand seven hundred and nineteen (2719) feet, to the place of beginning; containing eighty-three and ninety-seven hundredths (83 97/100) acres, more or less, excepting four and one-half (4 1/2) acres of land herebefore conveyed to William Nave by deed duly recorded in the recorder's office of said county, Appraised at \$436. Terms cash. Sale to commence at 10 o'clock a. m. HIRSH DOLL, Sheriff. WILLISON & DAY, Attorneys.

After hearing some friends continually praising Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, Curtis Flock, of Anaheim, Cal., purchased a bottle of it for his own use and is now as enthusiastic over its wonderful work as anyone can be. The 25 and 50 cent sizes for sale by Z. T. Baltzy, Druggist, Opera Block.

CAPTAIN CLOSE

BY CAPTAIN CHARLES KING.

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CONTINUED

XIII.

Confined to her bed and room as was Madam Walton, and only vaguely alive to what might be going on in the household—for there were days when she lay dull and apathetic, yet mercifully spared from suffering—it was Esther's duty and fondest care to minister to her mother's needs even at a time when her heart was torn with anxiety and account of her husband, now a prisoner in the hands of the United States marshal at the capital, and of her brother, who, under the orders of the general in command of the department, had been sent under guard to New Orleans, there to await his trial by court-martial for the crime of desertion. The visits of the old family physician were frequent, for the invalid had had too much to suffer and seemed incapable of further struggle. Floyd was twice permitted to visit his mother during the two days that elapsed before telegraphic orders came in his case. She knew him, clung to him, yet seemed unable to realize that he was going from her. She once or twice asked if Judge Summers had been heard from, for Cousin Bart had written full details of Floyd's trouble, and the family united in urging him to make an appeal to certain influential friends of the ante bellum days, who had scandalized the Waltons by their loyalty to the old flag. Then Lambert wrote a letter which Close signed and sent to the department headquarters, and the boy, remembering some kind words said to him by his father's old friend, ventured on a personal letter to the general himself, pleading Walton's case and portraying the family's distress. It was this letter that overcame Esther's objection to the advice of Mr. Potts to the effect that they take Mr. Lambert in as a day boarder. And within 48 hours of his initial appearance at their table Mrs. Scroggs, as he was the first to address his blushing hostess, was more than reconciled to the step.

But if she was, Miss Kate was not. The wrath and indignation of that young lady can hardly be described. It was one thing, she declared, for her to sell eggs and butter to a gentleman who was a friend of Floyd's, who told her he despised his captain as much as she did, who had enlisted only because he had been promised immediate promotion to a captaincy, and who never would have done so even then, had he known that soldiers could be used to persecute the people of the south. He was only waiting for his commission to come—or his discharge—to tell Capt. Close what he thought of his conduct. It was all very well to make friends with a gentleman like Mr. Riggs, who had been dear brother Floyd's friend at Quitman before he fell in love with that horrid designing Yankee girl who had led him on to "coffin" her when she was all the time engaged to that rich rascal or whatever he might be. Mr. Riggs had behaved like a puffed-up gent-man. (She had forgotten the little bill he had been running up and was so long vainly importuned to pay. She also attached slight importance to Barton's statement that "brother Floyd said Riggs was a fraud and liar, and responsible for much—though not all—of his trouble.") As between Mr. Riggs and this new Yankee lieutenant, who had dared to disguise himself and seek to make her acquaintance, she had but one opinion; Riggs was driven to drink and desertion by having had to serve under such brutish. She declared she would starve rather than eat under the same roof with Lieut. Lambert, insisted on staying in her mother's room and being served there, and was conspicuous by her absence from the table for the first 48 hours since Lambert's admittance, despite Esther's pleading and Barton's ridicule. "You may think it fine to take money from such people, Mrs. Scroggs," she declared, with high disdain; "but you never would if you were well enough to know what was going on." (Moh is the only alphabetical combination that I can think of which even approximately represents Miss Kate's pronunciation of the term by which she was accustomed to refer to her mother.) But if Miss Kate were indignant before, she was simply furious when her married sister responded, with exasperating calm:

"And yet you took Mr. Lambert's money in payment for your butter, Katesie."

"Ah didn't. How day-ah you say so, Esthuh?" It was Mr. Riggs.

"Floyd says it wasn't. Floyd says that man had not had a cent for three weeks. You know yourself it was Mr. Lambert there at the fence both nights, and you know why that wretch couldn't have been there."

"Ah'll wuhk every finguh to the bone, then, till it's paid back," cried Miss Walton. "An' it was mean an' contemptible an' cowardly in him to fawce it on me as he did—to listen to what wasn't meant for his yubs at all." By his "yubs" Miss Walton meant those organs of hearing that lay so close under the brown curls on either side of Mr. Lambert's shapely head—ears which she could gladly have pinched, or tweaked, or even banged, in her wrath at that moment. The hard-earned, long-expected five dollars had been sent to town and expended before this sisterly conference took place, or beyond doubt, Miss Katesie would have hurled it back at the donor when he came so springily up the walk that crisp December evening.

Two days later brought a long letter from Floyd, written from the barracks at New Orleans. He was not confined in the guardhouse, as he had feared and expected to be. The prisoners awaiting sentence were there, but those yet to be tried were kept in an old store-

house that was not uncomfortable, and on the evening of his arrival an officer, Lieut. Waring of the artillery, took him into a separate room, "treated him like a perfect gentleman," wrote poor Floyd leaving his readers to divine whether (his lavish descriptive were to apply to the lieutenant or himself, listened to Floyd's story from beginning to end, and told him to keep up his spirits. "Lieut. Lambert had written urging him to do all he could to help me, and had asked old Gen. Ducaannon to restore me to duty without trial, in view of the way I had been tricked. If he does, and will send me out against those infernal Indians in Texas, by heaven I'll show them I can fight as hard for the flag to-day as I did against it three and four years ago. All I ask is officers and gentlemen like him—or young Lambert—to serve under, and I'll earn my pardon."

They had been utterly blue and hopeless on Floyd's account since his transfer to New Orleans, and this letter was a revelation. Esther took it up to her mother's room and strove to make her understand its purport. "Katesie!" sitting silently, and, at first, scornfully by Mrs. Walton's faculties seemed too dazed to follow, and Esther had to reiterate and explain. Then the doctor came, and the hale old gentleman's eyes filled as he read. "That young fellow is a trump," said he, referring to Lambert; and he, too, bent over the gentle invalid and whispered hope and courage. Later, when Kate was wanted, it was found she had quitted the room. Esther discovered her after considerable search, shivering in a room upstairs. She wouldn't talk, but that evening came to tea.

For several days Miss Kate contrived to hold aloof from the general conversation, but it was a hard fight against every natural impulse. Before the end of the week her resolution had failed her utterly, and time and again her ready tongue had challenged Lambert to debate; and now, to her chagrin, it was he who declined. When formally presented to "My sister, Miss Walton," by Mrs. Scroggs, the young gentleman had bowed very low and had stiven to be civil. As they sat facing each other, and only the width of the table apart, her downcast eyes and determined silence proved embarrassing, even though long, curving, sweeping lashes and flushed cheeks appeared, perhaps, to dangerous advantage. "Aw pshaw!" said Cousin Bart that evening, as he and Lambert were snoking the pipe of peace and the young fellow ventured a fear that he had offended the damsel in the butter business, "just you may no attention to that child for a day or two, an' see how quick she'll come round. She just wants to be huffy. She'll be hawbly cut up when she finds you don't notice her." Potts had not a little worldly wisdom when he wasn't drinking, and since his installation as ex-officio head of the house he hadn't touched a drop. Lambert was beginning to like him very much, but couldn't induce him to come over to camp. "I can't stand that captain of yours," was his sole explanation.

From frigid silence on Katesie's part to occasional monosyllable and thence to brief and caustic comments on the remarks of her sister and cousin the transition was easy; but now that Lambert addressed no remarks whatever to her, yet chatted smilingly with the others, the girl's position became exasperating. She was willing enough, at the start, to keep at wide distance, but that anybody should presume to hold her there was a very different matter; in fact, simply intolerable. Esther noted in silent amusement how the girl began to display unaccustomed solicitude as to the fit of her gown, the effect of such poor little efforts at ornamentation as her simple store of lace or ribbon afforded. Such quaint, old-fashioned bows and flounces as came forth, such queer combinations of shade and color! Esther caught her more than once glancing up shyly from under the long lashes and looking furtively at her vis-a-vis, for Lambert, with malice prepense and aforethought, began telling Mrs. Scroggs of the belles and beauties of last summer at the Point, and one evening when the verbal blockade had lasted perhaps three days he turned to Esther as they were rising from the table—and if it wasn't taking a mean advantage of a defenseless foe, what would be?

"I brought over these two to show you, Mrs. Scroggs," said he, producing some carte-de-visite photographs from an envelope. "This is Miss Fordham, who was considered the prettiest girl at Cozzens' this year, though that fashionable street suit is perhaps less becoming to her than evening dress. And this is Miss Torrance. I think I told you that our ladies are no longer wearing crinolines, and that these short dresses are worn even for calling in the daytime."

And Katie Walton was halted at the threshold as she would have left the room. What woman could resist a peep at these pictures of reigning belles garbed in the height of the fashion of the day—a fashion these fair southern sisters had never seen, and had only vaguely heard of! Cousin Bart could have laughed outright when he caught a glimpse of Katesie's face, but mercifully refrained. She flushed, stopped, bit her lip, turned and fairly ran upstairs, but came down five minutes later, as Lambert knew she would, "looking for a book;" and Esther, yearning over her, called her sister to her side. Looking at northern girls' pictures wasn't making friends with their friends anyhow! "Ah don't see anything pretty in that one," was Katesie's prompt comment. "And Ah couldn't be hi-nd to wear a gown like that." But Lambert felt that he had won the day, and the next evening, fetched over a whole album full. "Ce n'est que le premier pas," etc. Miss Walton, having looked at two, concluded she might as well see the others, but she never meant to ask questions about them—as she had to when Esther went in to see what moh would like for her tea. Cousin Bart had brought in a bag

of plump and tempting "partridges" that evening, and was beginning to puzzle Esther very much, when she remembered how impecunious a person Bart had ever been, to account for the supplies which he began to fetch from town.

And so things were going a trifle better at the old homestead towards the end of December. Hopeful letters came from Walton. The Parmelee party were having difficulty in getting reliable evidence against him; his friends were making him entirely comfortable in his confinement, and his lawyer assured him that his release would be effected in a very few days. Floyd wrote that an aid-de-camp of the general commanding had come with Lieut. Waring to see him, and to say that his case was being investigated and that, as yet, no charges had been preferred by the commander of his troop. Little delicacies and luxuries in the way of tea, jellies, preserves and wine—things to which they had been strangers since early in the war—were finding their way in and greatly comforting the invalid mother, and could their doctor but say the dear lady was really mending, the girls would have had hope and courage, but the doctor could not say.

"I've got to go to Quitman for two days on business, Esther," said Cousin Bart one keen morning, "and I reckon I'll ask Dr. Falconer to come back with me, 'f you don't mind, and have a day at the birds. They'll all be gone in a week 'f this weather keeps on." "You have deeper reason than that, Barton. I saw you with Dr. Coleman when he went out last night. It's a consultation, is it not?" "Why, of co'se I want Coleman to have a chance to talk it over with Falconer, and he'll like it, too. Falconer's more up to date, the old man says, and he thinks perhaps the new school knows something wuth tryin'. You see, Cousin Lou ain't pickin' up fast as she ought to."

"I see it all too plainly, Bart. What I don't see is where all the money is to come from to pay for doctors and consultations—and—!" Big tears began welling in her soft, sad eyes. "Bart, where does it all come from now? How do we get all these dainties? You can't spare it. It mustn't be Mr. Lambert's—"

"Now just don't you bother 'bout that, Esther. I made a raise, I tell you. There's old Uncle Pete and that no-count nigger Frank ben owin' your mother on last year's crop o' cawt's all this time. I made them pony up, an' I told Hicks I'd sell out his mule an' cart 'f he didn't pay—made him haww the money—"

"That wouldn't begin to cover the cost of what you've been having sent up from New Orleans—the expressage even—"

"Now just don't you haww trouble." (One r in a sentence wasn't too much for Potts. When they doubled up on him he confessed judgment.) "Lambert lends to all that. Uncle Sam, he says, pays freight on commissary stores. Just do's I say, and we'll fetch Cousin Lou round all right yet, and find somebody to rent the old place and send you all down to Biloxi for the winter. But I'll tell you what I do think, Esther: you't have Lambert over to sleep in my room while I'm gone. He'll come."

But when Lambert came to tea that night half expecting to be welcomed to Cousin Bart's place in his absence, a surprise awaited him. Esther, with joy in her eyes, blushing told him that her husband would be with them before nine o'clock. A telegram had announced his release and speedy coming.

"There's no train over before morning, is there?" he asked.

"No—but—Mr. Scroggs took the stage at noon for Vernon, up north of here, and will get a horse there."

And, as it was evident that she looked any moment for that longed-for coming, Lambert decided to slip back to camp instead of spending an hour in chat or reading, as he usually did. At this Miss Katesie's big blue-gray eyes were opened wide with surprise, then lowered in confusion, for he turned to look at her.

"Oh! Good-night, Miss Walton," he laughingly exclaimed. "I had almost hoped you would ask me to stay."

"Ah don't know wh' Ah should," was the prompt and pouting reply. "Sister Esthuh can if she likes."

"She doesn't like, to-night—as a matter of course. I couldn't expect her to. But as your good mother is sleep-



Formally presented to "my sister, Miss Walton."

ing and Mrs. Scroggs will be able to leave her to welcome her husband, and you will be—well—rather superfluous. I thought I might profit by the situation to the extent of having an hour's chat with you—about your fair compatriots up north, for example."

"Ah don't know of any subject that would interest me less. And they're not my compatriots, as you call them," answered Miss Kate, with fire in her eyes.

"Ah, true," said Lambert, with provoking coolness, and a mischievous

smile twitching the corners of his mouth; "I recall your indifference to their photographs the other evening. Will you kindly say good-night to Mrs. Scroggs for me, and tell her—"

"Ah'll tell her you were simply hateful and Ah thought you'd never go!" "Well, I won't, if you think I ought to stay," said Lambert, returning smilingly to the door and proceeding to hang his forage cap upon its accustomed peg. She promptly snatched it from his hand.

"Ah wish you and your photographs wuh freezing up nawth, wuh you b'long, 'stead of coming down yuh ty'annizing over people—"

"Now do you know I was wishing that, too? It's so much nicer freezing up north than being frozen here; and then next week's Christmas. Oh, you don't have any mistletoe here, do you?"

"We did, before you all came. You Yankees ruined everything nice you didn't carry off."

"Now, what am I to say, Miss Katesie? If I don't say you're nice you'll think I'm ungrateful; and what Yankee would ever dare try to carry you off?"

"Lieut. Lambert, Ah think you're simply horrid, and Ah wish you'd go. 'stead of standing there pulling your mustache in that silly way."

"Now, Miss Katesie!—the idea of your being the first girl to set her face against this struggling mustache! I never should have thought it of you. Or was it the mistletoe put you in mind—"

"Will you go?" she cried, with flaming cheeks and stamping foot. "How day-uh you stand there laughing at me? Oh, if I were a man—"

"If you were a man nobody would think of such a thing. As I'm one, I can't help it."

"Ah wish Ah could help you down those steps and back to camp," she retorted, trying hard to look furious.

"You could, easily, but you don't want to, or you would have given me my cap long ago."

"Oh!" and the jaunty kepi went spinning into the darkness of the night, and the little lady stamped in fury at her own blunder. "Take your cap, and go."

"We'll," said Lambert, with provoking coolness, "if I'm to follow my cap it hasn't gone towards camp at all. It seems—excuse me! I come back for a light—it seems to have dropped close to that old arbor of yours among the rose bushes, where you sit in the summer moonlit evenings. Suppose we leave it as an excuse for me to drop around next time you go there."

But now she seized a candle and went bounding down the steps. A moment's search among the bushes, and she found it—also him, for he calmly followed.

"There's your cap," she said, "and yawnduh's the gate!"

He looked up in affected pain and astonishment.

"Why, Miss Katesie!—I supposed you were simply acting on my suggestion, and we were going to have such a lovely time at the bower. That's why I followed."

"Oh, Ah should like to try-uh your tongue out. You know Ah hate the very ground you stand on." The gloom in his face gave way instantly to radiant joy. "You do?—really?" he cried. "Oh, I never hoped for that! I thought you loved every inch of this ugly old state and that I never could coax you to leave it. Do you really hate it so?"

But now, fairly beside herself with vexation, the girl had turned and fled, her little feet seeming to fly up the worn old steps that groaned and creaked under any other touch. He stood gazing after her a moment, the teasing, merry smile still hovering about his lips, then picked up the cap she had hurled to earth, and walked blithely away.

Not ten yards from the gate came Corp. Cunningham on the run. Capt. Close desired to see the lieutenant at once. A negro stood by the campfire in front of Close's tent, trembling from either fear or excitement or both, his protruding eyes fixed on the form of old Rasmus, who was eagerly jabbering to the company commander.

"Do you know anything 'bout this, Lieutenant?" asked Close. "These darkies say there's been a big row over towards Vernon, and that Walton Scroggs is among the killed."

XIV.

The first Christmas a young fellow spends in the army is one he is apt to remember. What he did in years before, or of what nature were the festivities in those that followed, may, in course of time, become but vague and shadowy pictures before the mind's eye. After something like 20 years of service as a commissioned officer Mr. Lambert was heard to say that never, even when a homesick plebe at West Point, had he passed so forlorn a Christmas as that which immediately succeeded his graduation.

The rain was beating down in sullen shower upon the bare and dripping woods and sudden fields; the roads were deep in mud; camp, of which he was once more commander, was wet and cold and cheerless; in the adjoining tent lay his senior officer groaning on a bed of pain, hands and face blistered and bandaged, hair and eyebrows gone, while over across the way a pile of scorched and blackened timbers, a couple of brick chimneys, and the stone foundations, were all that were left of Walton Hall.

The story brought in of the big row at Vernon, though exaggerated, had been sufficiently confirmed in the course of an hour or so that wintry evening of Lambert's last visit to the homestead, to warrant his being ordered thither with half the company to "support the civil authorities in restoring peace." Close reported the situation by telegraph to department headquarters, and the action taken by him, his dispatch reaching the general commanding the next day an hour or so after that official had been ordered from Washington to send full particulars of the disturbance in his bailiwick,

for the federal officials in the south and the partisans of both sides of the political questions at issue had worked the night wires for all they were worth, and the early morning papers were lurid with details of the tragic outbreak.

It was midnight when Lambert started on his march with two excited deputy marshals for guides. Five miles out they met some horsemen conveying an old carriage containing Walton Scroggs, seriously wounded, and a doctor. With the escort Lambert held brief parley, also with the wounded man, who, though weak, was full of pluck and spirits; his sole anxiety seemed to be on the score of his wife and the shock the news would cause her. The account given the young officer of the circumstances leading up to the facts differed radically from that with which he and his commander had thus far been favored. This was to be expected, as up to this point their sole informants were either negroes or a couple of whites of the Parmelee stamp. In the north, as a rule, the affair appeared to have been a wanton and unprovoked attack by Walton Scroggs and his friends upon some negroes who had been instrumental in securing his arrest—nothing short, in fact, of a red-handed act of vengeance, as was evident from the fact that immediately on his release he and his party, armed to the teeth, had ridden over to Vernon, instead of going home, and without warning or apparent warrant had begun the indiscriminate shooting down of certain unpopular whites and their luckless negro supporters.

In the south, except among certain journals published in the interest of the "radical" republican party, the other side of the story was promptly circulated. "Capt. Scroggs and a friend, endeavoring to reach home by a circuitous route so as to avoid trouble after his release from jail, where he had been incarcerated several weeks on baseless, trumped-up charges, were set upon in the streets of Vernon by a blackguardly pack of loafers, insulted, abused and assaulted, and finally compelled in self-defense to draw their revolvers, not, however, until they had been fired upon. One odd circumstance connected with these perennial shooting scrapes in those days was the fact that in footing up the score it was always found that five negroes to one white was about the proportion of casualties. This may have been due to the fact that the ratio of black to white in every scrimmage was about five to one, or else that the Caucasian, being cooler and long skilled in the use of arms, was more effective in close combat. At all events, when impartially investigated it was found that this Vernon difficulty differed from its fellows in no particular except one—that it "had no political significance whatever." Walton's friends, rejoicing with him in his release from duance vile, did so after the fashion of the day, and more or less bad whisky was consumed before the stage reached Vernon—where more friends were met, more treats exchanged, and where, as the devil of mischief would have it, he happened into the bar of the old tavern just at the moment when two or three others, all white, were happening out. One of these was an old-time admirer of Esther Walton, a man with whom Scroggs had been at outs for years. There was a jostle—unintentional—a scree in the careless apology and a rankling word or two. Peace-makers drew the principals apart. Indeed, Walton was too happy to continue his journey home and Estherwards to care to quarrel. But his rival's heart and brain were burning, and more liquor made matters worse. The horses were being brought around from the stable with the troop of vagrant negroes looting after, when, despite the efforts of his friends, the half-drunken man came lurching out of a neighboring saloon and with savage oaths rushed at Walton, "demanding satisfaction."

Weapons were drawn and shots exchanged on the instant, and one of the scattered mob of negroes fell dead with a bullet through his heart, while for a moment Walton, with smoking pistol, stood alone, looking down at his assailant writhing on the sidewalk. Friends rushed in, carried one man into the drug store and crowded Walton into the tavern bar. It was "fair fight." He had drawn only in self-defense. His assailant was to blame, and there was no man to suggest arrest. But he stood there pale and unnered now, covered with sorrow at the disaster to the man, who, even though a friend, was popular, well and widely known, and, according to the somewhat accessible standard of the state and day, "a perfect gentleman." It was characteristic of the time and place that nobody present happened to think of the dead negro.

Among these poor people Walton Scroggs was, perhaps deservedly unpopular. The other man, open-handed, generous, easy going, had won not a little of their unreasoning yet enthusiastic regard. It was while Scroggs, with two advisers, was seated, sad and trembling, in a little room of the tavern awaiting the result of the doctor's examination of his fainting foe that a citizen came rushing in. "Scroggs, you'll have to get out of this—quick. There was a meeting of that old Grant and Colfax club going on up the street, and the niggers have rushed in and told 'em you killed Pete Jackson. The whole gang of 'em are coming."

Coming? They were already there. With furious yells and fearful threats a surging crowd of negroes came tearing along the village street, stopping only a moment to verify the death of their friend, and too late now for explanation or denial—they swarmed madly into the office, demanding Walton's body. The battle was on in an instant, a battle for life, a 60 seconds' war of races, white against black, as it had to be, since none would listen to reason, and superior nerve and aim told. Pistols and the office were emptied about the same moment, but five more darkies had gone to join Pete Jackson at the

mercy seat, and the proprietor of the Southern Star had died like the soldier he was, defending the life of his guest. Scroggs himself, seriously wounded, was born away on the dark Tugaloo road, and far and wide the affrighted negroes were scurrying over the country, carrying tidings of riot as they ran. It was all a miserable blunder, but the end was not yet. Lambert and his detachment took station at Vernon, whence the negroes had fled in terror, and all warring was at an end. Such were his orders, and he had no choice, yet it would have been wiser counsel to recall him and his party within 24 hours. They could have done better service nearer home. How it happened none could ever say. Among

the whites it remained for years an article of faith that desperate and determined negroes had followed Walton Scroggs to his refuge and there wreaked vengeance for the blood of their fellows. Among the negroes it has never been looked on as other than a direct manifestation of divine wrath upon their enemies and persecutors. How the house could have so suddenly burst into flame everyone could theorize and no one explain; but at three o'clock in the morning the few men remaining with Capt. Close in camp were startled from their sleep by the report of the sentry's musket and the yell of "Fire!" and, springing from their tents, were greeted by the sound of crackling woodwork and screams for aid and the sight of Walton Hall one glare of flame.

Some men got there quicker than others—none were slow—but even the foremost of the soldiers were appalled and bewildered by what they saw and heard—Katherine Walton and the quadroon maid Elinor wringing their hands and imploring them to save the bed-ridden mother, while Esther was making vain effort to drag a helpless form through the blazing hallway. It was at this juncture that Close came laboring up the path. He was slow, heavy, had a longer distance to run, and was panting hard, but he burst through the squad already scrambling up the steps, sprang through the fire-flashing portal, and with the strength of an ox heaved Walton, groaning, upon his shoulders, tumbled him out into the arms of his men, then turned on gasping Esther. "Where's your mother's room?" Almost fainting, she could only lean upon the pillar for support and point through the vista of smoke and flame. Close leaped like a tiger, with Cunningham and Murphy at his back. An instant, and these latter reappeared, blind, staggering, their faces hidden in their hands, and burst into the open air, stumbling headlessly down the steps. A groan went up from the men; their captain was gone. In vain Burns and McBride strove to rush in to the rescue. Mortal man could not stand such heat. And then, in the midst of the wild wailing of the terrified and helpless women, came from around the north side of the house an exultant cheer. Those men who had had sense enough to strive to reach the side windows were rewarded by the sudden thrusting open of the shutters and the appearance of the well-known burly form of their captain with some blanket-shrouded shape in his arms. The flames leaped forth from that very casement but a second after Close and his precious burden were lowered to the walk below.

And this was the story of a brave man's deed he heard from every lip, said Lambert, later, as he hastened back on receipt of the news; and this was the response made by the brave man himself, when his lieutenant bent over his senior's seared and bandaged face next day and rendered his soldierly congratulations. Turning slowly over on his side, Close pointed to the wreck of a pair of uniform trousers, scorched and burned in a dozen places and irretrievably ruined.

"Look," said he, mournfully. "Them was my best pants."

Then it was found that not only had the strange old fellow lost his hair and beard, and not a little of the cuticle of his face and hands, as well as those patched but precious "best pants," but that his eyesight was threatened. The good old doctor who had for so many years attended the Waltons, and who had come at once to renew his ministrations under the humble roof in town that was their temporary refuge, listened to the story of Close's heroism with quickened pulse and kindled eye. He and Mr. Barton Potts, who had hastened back from Quitman, came out to camp to see and thank the prostrate soldier, Potts being ceremonious in his expression of gratitude and admiration and most earnest in his apology for what he had said and thought of Close in the past. The doctor stayed longer by the silent sufferer's cot, carefully studying his face as far as it could be seen. Professional etiquette prevented his saying anything that might be a reflection on the treatment and practice of the "contract surgeon," yet it was plain to Lambert, and to Potts, too, that he was disturbed. Close, however, seemed to think less of his own plight than of that of the Waltons, who, except the little patch of fields about the ruined homestead, had lost everything they owned in the world, and who were now in sore anxiety and distress. The terrible shock and exposure had been too much for one so fragile as the lady mother, and Mrs. Walton was sinking fast. Walton Scroggs, too, was in desperate case, though soothed by the knowledge that all the row at Vernon—that is, the human cause of it all—was already out of danger. Close begged the doctor for full particulars not only as to how they were but how they expected "to get along through the winter," and at last said he wished to speak to him alone, whereat Potts and Lambert, wondering, left the tent.

TO BE CONTINUED

Repair work done promptly and neatly. Boots and shoes made to order. All kinds of shoemakers' supplies for sale at No. 21 West Main street.

HERMAN R. HINTZ.

LOCAL HAPPENINGS.

Discovered this week by Independent Investigators.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Poe, of Pittsburg, are in the city.

Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Mellon spent Christmas in Columbus.

Miss Laura Aikens, of Jewett, is visiting Miss Mayme Carley.

Miss Ada Bryant is visiting her aunt, Miss Deane, in Toledo.

The Rev. and Mrs. A. R. Chapman have returned to Palmyra.

Township trustees will meet on Monday evening for monthly settlements.

Mrs. W. D. Benedict and children are spending the holidays in Ashley, O.

Miss Cora Grant has come home from Cleveland to visit her parents in Akron street.

Samuel R. Baethel, of Ft. Wayne, Ind., is visiting his father, Dr. Isaac Baethel.

Leo Studer will return to Pittsburg next week. He has been in town for several days.

Miss Flora Shafraath, of North East street, is visiting her parents in McDonaldville.

Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Wentz and son, of Canal Dover, are visiting Massillon relatives.

Mrs. Belle Kelley and Miss Kelley, of Cleveland, are guests of Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Upham.

Miss Mary Arnold, of Cleveland, is visiting Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Arnold, in Wellman street.

Otto Siebold and Frank Webb have deserted the class room for a brief visit with their parents.

Mrs. B. McCue and Miss Blanche McCue are in Cincinnati, the guests of Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Wright.

Miss Carrie J. Hackett has gone to Cleveland to spend the holidays with her friend, Miss Holden.

Henry Kreyer has come home from New York to spend a week with his parents in West Main street.

Mrs. Stephen Applegate and daughter of Elizabeth, Pa., are visiting her niece, Mrs. B. L. Kline, in East South street.

The firemen at the central engine house were presented with Christmas cigars by H. C. Brown and A. W. Iman.

All employees at the paper mill were paid on Christmas eve, and each one was given a splendid two-bladed pocket knife.

The Misses Hansen entertained a sled load of young people from Navarre, at their Chestnut street home, Friday night.

Miss Myrtle Ella Gardner, daughter of Dr. J. F. Gardner, of West Brookfield, is spending the holidays with her aunt, Mrs. Putnam, in Cleveland.

Mrs. John Bair, of Akron, is spending a few days with her sister, Mrs. Catherine Pider, and her niece, Mrs. Charlotte Ames, 25 Canal street.

Mr. Anthony L. Gabele has returned home after an absence of eleven years, during which time he has traveled extensively through the South and Mexico.

Miss Arabella Maier came down from Cleveland, Thursday evening, and will spend the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Godfrey Maier, in West Main street.

Mrs. Thos. Shorb and daughter, of Cleveland, and Mrs. John Rhine and son of Sanborn, Dakota, are guests at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Siebold.

The Christian Endeavor Society of the Presbyterian church will hold a social at the Presbyterian chapel next Tuesday evening, Dec. 29. A cordial invitation is extended to all to be present.

The directors of the First National bank have appointed Mr. Per Lee Hunt assistant cashier. Mr. Hunt was formerly the bank's head bookkeeper and won the promotion by his careful and efficient work.

Commencing Sunday, January 3d, all Sunday C. L. & W. passenger trains will be annulled. Train No. 2, on and after January 4th, will run 30 minutes later than present schedule. M. G. Carrel, general passenger agent.

Henry Pfing has come home from Newcomerstown to spend a few days with his family. He and his wife gave a Christmas dinner and besides local friends and relatives, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Wise, and Mr. H. Schwertner, of Canton, were present. Mr. Schwertner leaves in a few days for Cuba as a correspondent of the Pittsburg Dispatch.

Mrs. Curtis Wade has received notice of the death of her father, Henry Rank, at his home in Barrs Mills. Mr. Rank will be remembered by many of the older citizens as having once been a resident of this city, where he was at one time a boot and shoe merchant and was also interested in a flour mill. He was about 60 years of age and leaves a family.

Michael Gonder, aged 89 years, one of the oldest residents of Lawrence township, died Friday night of old age. Mr. Gonder had stepped into the yard to feed the live stock. His long absence frightened the other members of the family, and upon investigating found the body lying in the snow near the barn. The funeral services will be held at the M. E. church in Canal Fulton, Monday morning at 10 o'clock.

The Christmas night hop at the Massillon Club, informal though it was, found everybody prepared for an evening of pleasure. All the girls who are attending out of town schools, were present, and the dancing continued until a late hour when half a dozen cheering dais were brought into use, and the experts in the gentle art brought forth creamed oysters and Welsh rarebits of such quality as to bring Christmas feasting to an appropriate end. Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Thornburgh, of Chicago, and Mr. and Mrs. Herman Donds, of Cleveland, were among the guests.

In order that there may be no misunderstanding about it, THE INDEPENDENT announces in this way that all newspaper carriers and newsboys in town, whether employed by this company or not, are invited to the annual dinner at the Saller Hotel, Friday, January 1st, at 6 o'clock.

THE BOYS will meet at THE INDEPENDENT building at that hour, and it is expected that there will be a high old time for all. The paper will go to press at 10 a. m. Friday so that everybody can be on hand. It is possible that a dramatic company will give a matinee at the Armory on that day and if so, the boys will go from the hotel to the theatre.

Alva B. Loomis died shortly before 11 o'clock Friday night, at the home of his mother, Mrs. Aural Loomis, in Duncan street. Mr. Loomis, who was a train dispatcher in the employ of the Wheeling & Lake Erie railway company, was taken ill last Saturday with kidney trouble and grew gradually worse until death occurred. He was 24 years of age, unmarried, the oldest of four children, and had been a resident of Massillon for about three years. Mr. Loomis had many admirable qualities which won for him the respect and friendship of all who knew him. The funeral arrangements will be announced later. Brief funeral services will be held at the residence at 8:40 o'clock Tuesday morning, the Rev. Dr. Smith officiating. The body will be taken to Monroeville for burial.

THEY FEAR BURGLARS. WEST LEBANON, Dec. 24.—In Apple creek the other night, six business houses and residences were entered by burglars, and ever since residents of this place have been agitating the reorganization of the vigilance committee. Some declare that they are afraid to sleep at night, and others stand guard over their respective homes by patrolling the street in front armed with rifles and other firearms. For some months past the vigilance committee has not been on duty, it being the general opinion that lawlessness had abated sufficiently to allow them to spend their nights in bed, instead of being abroad on the lookout for burglars.

AUTHENTIC VERSION AT LAST. The State Laws Printed in One Volume and Correctly.

HARRISBURG, Dec. 26.—A special volume has at last been printed of the official state compilation of the laws of Pennsylvania—the first edition of the acts which has been prepared from the original manuscripts since 1742—after 13 years of arduous and unremitting labor.

The publication of this one volume this week by State Printer Busch marks an epoch in the permanent registration of Pennsylvania laws for the reason that hitherto all legal work has been done from "act books" supposed to be literal copies, but in reality containing innumerable errors.

DINED WITH HIS MOTHER. Major McKinley and His Aunt's Quiet but Happy Christmas.

CANTON, O., Dec. 26.—Ideal Christmas weather prevailed in Canton.

The greater part of the morning Major and Mrs. McKinley spent in driving about in a double seated cutter, having with them on their little jaunts the various members of the family at the old homestead, where mother McKinley and her daughter, Miss Helen, reside.

The evening was spent at the Major's home where the guests at the dinner party and a few close friends who dropped in informally. Several young people with musical accomplishments were in the party and sang and played the favorite selections of Mrs. McKinley.

At this modest little home the president-elect ate his Christmas turkey at noon. It is many a year since he ate Christmas turkey at any other place. No matter what has been his official position, however arduous his duties, he always makes it point to be at his mother's home as her guest on Christmas day as well as on the family anniversary days, which are nearly always celebrated by the most informal of family reunions.

The season's greetings came by letter and by wire to Major and Mrs. McKinley from their friends in all parts of the country, and there were also a number of pretty mementoes sent with the well wishes of friends and admirers.

CHRISTMAS AT WHITE HOUSE. The President's and Cabinet Members' Children Celebrated Together.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—Christmas was celebrated in a joyous, homelike fashion at the White House. The children, not only of the president, but of the entire cabinet circle, held high carnival in the White House library. A noble fir tree stood in the center of the big semi-circular room.

There were presents for each of the little ones from Mrs. Cleveland, and in turn most of the visitors brought pretty tokens of remembrance for the Cleveland children. Marion and Ruth, who have gotten along nicely in the study of German, gave some pretty recitations and there were some Christmas carols sung. The President and Mrs. Cleveland exchanged presents, as has been their practice ever since their marriage, and all of the employees of the White House received some appropriate and useful token of their esteem.

THE BLUE CUT ROBBERY. Robbers Got About \$3,000 In the Missouri Holdup.

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—At the local office of the Chicago and Alton railway the following statement, in regard to the Blue Cut robbery, was given out:

"When the train was cut off the robbers made the trainmen get off while they took the engine and express car away. They next stopped in the cut about half way between the top of the hill and Glenview and rapped on the express car door. The express man opened it and realized for the first time that he was being held up."

"All of his valuables were exposed. He claims not to have had time to put them in the safe before leaving Kansas City. It was therefore not necessary for the robbers to open the safe, although they were amply provided with dynamite for the purpose. The amount secured footed up about \$2,500 in cash, and may reach \$3,000."

Destroyed by Fire. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26.—Fire has destroyed the plant of Francis Valentine & Co., one of the largest printing firms in the city. Total loss about \$50,000.

EVENTS OF 1896.

Varied Annals of the Old Year.

A PAGE OF HISTORY.

Havoc Caused by Fire, Flood and Storm—Commercial Failures—Personal, Political and Miscellaneous Happenings—A Classified Summary FIRE LOSSES.

JANUARY.

2. \$250,000 fire at West Palm Beach, Fla.

3. Franklin County Children's home, at Columbus, O.; loss, \$125,000.

15 buildings burned at Creston, Ia.; loss, \$150,000.

4. Central hotel and Street b. burned at Altoona, Pa.

11. A \$290,000 fire in St. Louis.

18. Crescent City Rice mills burned in New Orleans; loss, \$1,000,000.

10. 2 large apartment houses burned in Chicago; loss, \$300,000.

FEBRUARY.

8. West Virginia State Normal school at West Liberty burned.

15. Fire at Greenville, N. C.; loss, \$150,000.

17. Buckeye Glass works burned at Martin's Ferry, O.

25. A \$300,000 blaze at Birmingham, N. Y.

27. 15 business places burned at Florence, S. C.; loss, \$100,000.

MARCH.

1. The village of Coleville, Mono county, Cal., wiped out by fire.

8. 15 buildings burned at Danbury, Conn.; loss, \$150,000.

10. In Providence the Masonic building was burned; loss, \$500,000.

21. Plant of the Pennsylvania Salt works at Natrona, Pa., burned; loss, \$1,000,000.

20. 60 houses burned at Colon, Colombia.

23. Pleasure Ridge distillery, near Louisville, burned; loss, \$325,000.

A \$250,000 fire in Watertown, Conn.

20. Weston, W. Va., suffered by fire to the extent of nearly \$500,000.

APRIL.

2. Fire destroyed docks, warehouses and stores valued at \$400,000 at Brunswick, Ga.

7. \$125,000 fire at Douglas, Ga.

8. \$175,000 fire at Savannah, Ga.

19. Dauntless Bicycle Co. burned out at Toledo; loss, \$185,000.

25. Fire destroyed business blocks valued at \$200,000 at Cripple Creek, Colo.

30. Meat block and other properties burned at Quincy, Ill.; loss, \$300,000.

MAY.

2. Residence of Senator Hale, at Ellsworth, Me., burned; loss, \$70,000.

7. A \$300,000 fire at Somerset, Ky.

9. Fire destroyed lumber and ore docks at Laure, Mich., causing a loss of \$500,000.

10. At Ashland, Wis., fire destroyed 30,000,000 feet of lumber, valued at nearly \$500,000.

16. A \$150,000 fire at Painted Post, N. Y.

26. 15 buildings burned at Blue Island, Ill.; loss, nearly \$200,000.

18. 2 firemen killed and 4 missing at a fire in Washington; money loss, \$200,000.

25. A \$100,000 fire at Dallas.

A \$100,000 fire at Fort Worth.

JUNE.

11. Fire in the New York Horse Exchange; 100 horses burned; loss, \$300,000.

JULY.

8. San Luis Obispo, Cal., suffered to the extent of \$250,000 by fire.

11. Business block burned in Nashville; loss, \$500,000.

18. Car barns of the Chicago City railway burned; loss, \$250,000.

20. Park theater and Barrett House burned at Henderson, Ky.; loss, \$250,000.

21. Naylor's Opera House and other buildings burned at Terre Haute, Ind.; loss, \$50,000.

27. Fire in a shipyard at Belfast caused a loss of \$1,250,000.

30. The Montreal exhibition building nearly destroyed by fire; loss, \$150,000.

31. Grass Valley, Cal., partially destroyed by an incendiary fire; loss, \$150,000.

AUGUST.

6. Explosion and fire at Swift & Co.'s packing plant, Kansas City; loss, \$100,000; several persons injured.

12. The Manhattan House, Shelter Island, N. Y., destroyed by fire; loss, \$200,000.

18. Chemical laboratory building of the University of Illinois, at Champaign, burned; loss, \$100,000.

22. The E. position building, Buffalo Driving park, burned; loss, \$200,000.

26. The town of Ontonagon, Mich., destroyed by fire; loss, several millions of dollars; the plant of the Diamond Match company, valued at \$1,000,000, among the properties burned.

29. Iowa State Institution for the Feeble Minded struck by lightning and burned; loss, \$150,000.

SEPTEMBER.

1. Masonic hall burned at Winston, N. C.; loss, \$25,000.

5. Yore's Opera House burned at Benton Harbor, Mich.; 11 firemen killed.

13. The Delaware Oil works burned at Chester, Pa.; loss, \$120,000.

27. Mount Holyoke college destroyed by fire at South Hadley, Mass.

The wooden "elephant" at Concy Island burned.

OCTOBER.

2. 4 blocks burned at Jeanerette, La.; loss, \$150,000.

3. Fire in a knit goods factory at Camden, N. J.; loss, \$110,000.

8. A \$55,000 fire in Detroit.

8. A grain elevator and 2 blocks of business houses burned at Corning, Ia.; loss, \$150,000.

16. Furniture factory burned at Holland, Mich.; loss, \$125,000.

20. Stoneware works burned in East Akron, O.; loss, \$200,000.

25. A \$150,000 fire in a cotton warehouse in Galveston.

20 business houses burned in Ladonia, Tex.

Lumber yard and farm dwellings burned at Zilwaukee, Mich.; loss, \$175,000.

27. 2 grain elevators burned in Chicago; loss, \$1,250,000.

A \$300,000 factory fire in Brooklyn.

NOVEMBER.

6. Globe theater burned in St. Louis.

7. The Boston Bridge company at Cambridgeport, Mass., burned out; loss, \$100,000.

15. Several business houses burned at Elberton, Ga.; loss, \$100,000.

20. The courthouse at Eastland, Tex., destroyed by fire; loss, \$65,000.

29. The steamer City of Kalamazoo burned at South Haven, Mich.; 3 deaths.

DECEMBER.

1. A \$100,000 fire in Mason City, Ia.

2. St. Monica's church, burned at Atlantic City; 2 deaths.

8. Fire at Bay City, Mich.; loss, \$95,000.

9. Fire at Winston, N. C.; loss, \$150,000.

14. Fire at Altoona, Pa.; loss, \$100,000.

WRECKS AND EXPLOSIONS.

Record of Disasters on the Rail, in Mines and in Crowded Cities.

JANUARY.

25. 55 deaths in a coal mine disaster near Cardiff, Wales.

FEBRUARY.

6. Bridge over the Pequonnock river, near Hartford, was washed away; 30 workmen drowned.

17. About 30 working girls killed at a factory fire in Troy, N. Y.

18. Over 60 miners killed by an explosion at Newcastle, Colo.

55 deaths in a fire, at a masked ball at San Francisco.

19. A bridge of houses wrecked at Johannesburg, South Africa, by dynamite explosion; over 100 deaths.

7. Deaths at the burning of a mansion in Baltimore's fashionable district.

MARCH.

18. The Ladin & Rand Powder works, at Rippon, N. Y., wrecked by the explosion of 30,000 pounds of powder; 5 employees killed.

14. 14 miners killed by gas explosion in the Berwind mine at Johnstown, Pa.

APRIL.

1. 5 killed and several injured by a boiler explosion at Greenville, Miss.

10. Deaths in a tenement house fire in Brooklyn.

MAY.

5. Collapse of a 5 story lodging house in Cincinnati; many lives lost.

23. Electric car crashed through a bridge at Victoria, B. C.; 60 people drowned.

11 people drowned by the capsizing of a ferry-boat at Cairo, Ills.

21. Frightful calamity at the fetes of the czar's coronation in St. Petersburg; over 1,200 people killed in a crash.

JUNE.

9. 20 people injured by the fall of a crowded balcony in Ottawa, Kan.

28. 60 miners entombed by a cave in at the Twin shaft, Pittsburg, Pa.

JULY.

11. 81 persons killed and 99 injured in a railway collision near Logan, Ind.

21. 10 people drowned by a cloudburst near Frankfort, Ky.

AUGUST.

6. 6 killed and 62 injured in a trolley accident at Columbia, Pa.

6 persons drowned by the capsizing of a pleasure boat on the Delaware at Philadelphia.

17. 3 telephone linemen killed and 12 workmen seriously injured by a dynamite explosion at New Holland, Pa.

OCTOBER.

6. 7 deaths in a wreck on the A. T. and S. F. railway near Emporia, Kan.

14. 5 killed and 16 injured by a trolley collision at Hazleton, Pa.

25. 9 killed and 20 injured in a head end collision near Mesquite Highlands, Mo.

26. 6 miners killed by an explosion in shaft No. 3 at Wilkesbarre.

THE YEAR'S MISCELLANY.

A Record of Notable Events at Home and Abroad.

FEBRUARY.

5. Prof. Loiselet, teacher of mental culture, died in San Francisco.

Lady Francesca Wilde, mother of Oscar Wilde, died in London.

12. Charles Berryman & Co., merchants, of Isle Verte, Que., failed, with liabilities of \$255,000.

MARCH.

1. Riotous demonstrations in Spain against the United States.

12. John S. Hoey, famous shot, died at Long Branch.

20. George Richmond, portrait artist, died.

21. William Q. Judge, president of the Theosophical Society of America, died in New York.

22. Jennie R. Kimball, manager of the Kimball Opera Co., died at St. Paul.

APRIL.

1. The Chinese Anglo-German loan of £16,000,000 closed in London.

10. Count von Kutzner mortally wounded Baron von Schroder in a pistol duel in Berlin.

27. 5 leaders of the